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## **Reconciliation Statement**

Whereas we as members of Bethel Mennonite Church recognize that we live and our church building sits on Treaty 1 land and the homeland of the Metis Nation, and that Treaty 3 territory supplies our water and Treaty 5 territory supplies our electricity; and

Whereas we are becoming increasingly aware of the many past and present injustices that have taken place on these lands since they were colonized; and

Whereas we recognize our complicity in and benefit from these injustices over generations; and

Whereas we are Christians who strive to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8) in our interactions with others; and

Whereas we have been called by Christ's grace and the Spirit of truth to receive, seek out, and live the peace God has gifted to the world; and

Whereas for decades many members in this congregation have called us to repentance and renewed companionship with our Indigenous neighbours and have experienced the goodness of these relationships; and

Whereas, we have said that we desire to seek reconciliation as individuals and as a congregation,

Be it resolved, that members of Bethel Mennonite Church commit to rid themselves of any hatred, resentment, prejudice, dishonesty, and any other thought or action that keeps us from seeing and receiving other people as our brothers and sisters, wondrously made by a God who deeply loves each one of us. May we as a community, as families and friends, and as individuals learn and become enabled into a posture that seeks repentance, healing, truth, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in and beyond our communities. We commit ourselves to these specific acts of reconciliation:

Building relationships;

Listening generously with open hearts and minds;

Educating ourselves;

Integrating insights and lessons from Indigenous peoples into our worshipping and spiritual life; and

Seeking out projects of partnership with Indigenous peoples.

We also commit ourselves to walk alongside the MCC Aboriginal Neighbours program, other Mennonite Church Manitoba and Canada congregations, and other Christian communities as they also strive to walk the path of reconciliation.

## **Statement of Work and Purpose**

Whereas we recognize that we live and our church building sits on Treaty 1 land and the homeland of the Metis Nation, and that Treaty 3 territory supplies our water and Treaty 5 territory supplies our electricity; and

Whereas we are becoming increasingly aware of the many past and present injustices that have taken place on these lands since they were colonized; and

Whereas we recognize our complicity in and benefit from these injustices over generations; and

Whereas we are Christians who strive to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8) in our interactions with others; and

Whereas we have been called by Christ's grace and the Spirit of truth to receive, seek out, and live the peace God has gifted to the world; and

Whereas for decades many members in this congregation have called us to repentance and renewed companionship with our Indigenous neighbours and have experienced the goodness of these relationships; and

Whereas, Bethel Mennonite Church has asked us to help guide them as together we seek reconciliation as individuals and as a congregation,

Our committee seeks to enable a posture that seeks repentance, healing, truth, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in and beyond our communities on the part of all members of Bethel Mennonite Church and together as a collective body. Our aim is to open possibilities for and assist the congregation in pursuing these specific acts of reconciliation:

Building relationships;

Listening with open hearts and minds;

Educating ourselves;

Integrating insights and lessons from Indigenous peoples into our worshipping and spiritual life; and

Seeking out projects of partnership with Indigenous peoples.

We will also, on behalf of Bethel Mennonite Church, keep in touch with and walk alongside the MCC Aboriginal Neighbours program, other Mennonite Church Manitoba and Canada congregations, and other Christian communities in our neighbourhood as they also strive to walk the path of reconciliation.